



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV HEALTH SERVICES

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While not required of meeting participants, signing-in constitutes public notice of attendance. Presence at meetings is recorded solely based on sign-in sheets, and not signing-in constitutes absence for Commission members. Only members of the Commission on HIV Health Services are accorded voting privileges, thus Commissioners who have not signed in cannot vote. Sign-in sheets are available upon request.

COMMISSION ON HIV HEALTH SERVICES MEETING MINUTES May 12, 2005

Approved 6/9/05

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC (cont.)	HIV EPI AND OAPP STAFF
Al Ballesteros, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Ruben Acosta	Renault Johns Cho	Andy Corrigan
Nettie DeAugustine, <i>Co-Chair</i>	John Caranto	Beverly Johnson	Rochelle Floyd
Adrian Aguilar	Ruth Davis	Kelly Kent	Jay Gabor
Carla Bailey	Nancy Eugenio	Juan Ledesma	Jose Gomez
Anthony Braswell	Alexander Gonzales	Kevin Lewis	Ray Johnson
Carrie Broadus	Chuck Henry	Luis Lopez	Vicki Nagata
Robert Butler	Marcy Kaplan	Sue McGinnis	Diana Vasquez
Charles Carter	Michael Lewis	Davyd McCoy	Juhua Wu
Richard Eastman	Andrew Ma	November Morris	
Whitney Engeran	Elizabeth Marte	Ruel Nollado	
Hugo Farias	Vicky Ortega	Quentin O'Brien	
Gunther Freehill	Chris Perry	Michael O'Connor	
William Fuentes	Alexis Rivera	Everado Orozco	
David Giugni	Fontaine Shockley	Carlos Peralta	
John Griggs		Jane Price-Wallace	COMMISSION STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Rebecca Johnson-Heath		Alicia Rhoden	
Wilbert Jordan	PUBLIC	Andrew Signey	Virginia Bonila
Brad Land/Dean Page		James Skinner	Gary Garcia
Anna Long	Daisy Aguirre	Jon Stockton	Jane Nachazel
Elizabeth Mendia	Tahitia Anderson	Eric Taylor	Glenda Pinney
Wendy Schwartz	Mario Chavez		Doris Reed
Paul Scott/Richard Hamilton	Genevieve Clavreul		Sherry Rolls
Vanessa Talamantes	Jeffrey Goodman		James Stewart
Kathy Watt	Kellie Hawkins		Nicole Werner
Fariba Younai	Miki Jackson		Craig Vincent-Jones

Commission on HIV Health Services Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2005

Page 2 of 7

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. DeAugustine called the meeting to order at 9:48 am. Roll call was taken. She welcomed and asked the potential Commission nominees to introduce themselves, as well. She then explained that the meeting room design had been reconfigured to enable Commissioners and staff to stay seated during presentations, without requiring anyone to move from their seats, prompting, hopefully the Commission's more focused attention and thought to the presentations being given. She added that the new room design would also allow the Co-Chairs to remain seated and running the meeting during the presentations.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Dr. Younai requested that the presentation on Standards of Care Committee Report be moved to Item V, following Public Comment.
MOTION #1: Approve the Agenda Order (*Passed by Consensus*).
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**
- A. Annual Meeting, November 15-16, 2004:** Minutes approved with no changes.
MOTION #2: Approve minutes from the November 15-16 2004 Commission on HIV Health Services Annual Meeting (*Passed by Consensus*).
- B. March 10, 2005:** Minutes approved with no changes.
MOTION #3: Approve the minutes from the April 14, 2005 Commission on HIV Health Services meeting (*Passed by Consensus*).
- IV. PARLIAMENTARIAN REMARKS:** There was no report.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED:**
- Ms. Johnson, Chair for Watts Health Care Community Advisory Board (CAB), noted that Dr. Jordan had asked her to introduce herself to the Commission, and to tell her story. She indicated that she had been infected with HIV since 1990.
- VI. CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:** Ms. DeAugustine reported that the allocations were not done yet, so they could not finalize the letter of endorsement.
- VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**
- Mr. Vincent-Jones reported that the Executive Committee scheduled for Monday, May 30, 2005 is a holiday, and would need to move to Tuesday, May 31, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.
 - He announced that Sherry Rolls is leaving the Commission to a position in the Fire Department. He thanked her in being instrumental in making sure that H-CAP got off the ground and that it ran properly. He also announced that Ms. Rolls would be getting married the following weekend and congratulated her on her numerous life transitions.
- VIII. STATE OFFICE OF AIDS (OA) REPORT:** Mr. Vincent-Jones reported that Michael Montgomery, Director of the State Office of AIDS had informed him that the Office intends to nominate Peg Taylor for the seat representing the Office of AIDS. She is presently assuming the position of the Director of Care Services in the office, and will be ready to join the Commission soon after.
- IX. OFFICE OF AIDS PROGRAMS AND POLICY (OAPP) REPORT:** Mr. Freehill reported that all contracts have been finalized.
- A. CaseWatch:**
- Ms. Vasquez presented the revised CaseWatch system, noting especially the implementation of new "eligibility" screens. She explained the system's purpose as the centralized client-level data system for CARE Act-funded agencies, and described the new eligibility screens. She noted that the intent of the system is to track how well services are being delivered, a focus on clients, and recognizing impacts on the client population.
 - The screens standardize and upgrade the eligibility process for all clients who are accessing CARE Act-funded services in Los Angeles County. The screens will help ensure that all providers are following their appropriate eligibility requirements, are checking for other payer sources, and providing services of last resort. She went on to say that the screens will mean the client only has to enter the system once and provide paperwork to one provider, eventually reducing the burden for both clients and providers. She indicated that OAPP has been developing these screens for several years, and it has gone through numbers of revisions and pilots.

Commission on HIV Health Services Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2005

Page 3 of 7

- Ms. Corrigan initiated a CaseWatch demonstration. She indicated that 14 of the large providers have their own systems, and those systems related to CaseWatch through electronic data interchange: Rand Schrader, the County hospitals, and AHF, for example.
- Mr. Giugni was concerned that there is no system for agencies to be reimbursed for clients who do not sign the informed consent. Ms. Vasquez responded that usually—after education about informed consent—it's not a problem, but acknowledged that is a risk in some cases. She noted that is the conflict between the informed consent requirements of HIPAA and the payer of last resort requirements from the CARE Act. At this point, the only option available is to review those instances on a case-by-case basis. Ms. DeAugustine suggested reports back from OAPP periodically to note if that is becoming a problem, so the Commission can prepare how to address it as an issue.
- Mr. Engeran and others congratulated them on these vast system improvements.

X. **HIV EPIDEMIOLOGY PROGRAM REPORT:** There was no report.

XI. **PREVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Ms. Mendia highlighted the most recent PPC meeting:

- The ongoing colloquia series on local research, coordinated by CHIPTS, featured an intervention that has been developed by common ground, which targets Latina and African-American women. It is a multi-session intervention incorporating stories that, in turn, facilitate discussions around ways to improve communication between couples. Ms. Mendia noted that the PPC supports the local implementation of evidence-based interventions targeting identified behavioral risk groups.
- OAPP reported that the interim report to the CDC had been completed, incorporating a recent self-evaluation conducted by the PPC, as well as community feedback from a recent open house that the PPC hosted. OAPP also reported that they would be hosting a community introduction to the HIV Integrated Reporting System (HIRS), for a date to be determined.
- OAPP also reported that they would be convening a meeting to review a recent analysis of AIDS case data, evaluated by a Geographic Interface System (GIS) highlighting zip codes that are emerging areas where there are new AIDS cases may be concentrated, for a date to be determined.
- Ms. Talamantes reported that they are awaiting approval of a new meeting schedule. Their new schedule, if approved, would constitute subcommittees and the full PPC meeting in alternate months at St. Anne's. The alternate PPC meeting months, the subcommittees would convene at St. Anne's to meet. She noted that it is a mechanism to get the public involved at the subcommittee level, where more of the PPC's work is completed.

XIII. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. **Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee:** Ms. Watt thanked everybody who had been participating in the strategic planning meetings, noting especially participation from perspective new members. She acknowledged the work of Diane Burbie and Commission staff to move the process forward. She began her presentation by giving an overview of what the Committee has been doing for the last five months. She encouraged everyone to e-mail any ideas: the more input, the more informed the process. Ms. DeAugustine said she is happy to see that strategic planning has continued the increasingly more sophisticated work of the Commission, and agreed that the perspective of other stakeholders besides Commissioners is important to the work.

B. **Recruitment, Diversity and Bylaws (RD&B) Committee:**

1. **Ordinance:**

- Mr. Butler reported that they are waiting for final review of the ordinance from County Counsel. Once approved, Mr. Vincent-Jones will file a Board letter to present the Ordinance to the Board of Supervisors for adoption.
- Mr. Butler reported that the RD&B has prepared a draft of the bylaws to forward to County Counsel for review and comment. The goal is to get them back for presentation at the July Commission meeting.

2. **Member Nomination—Angelica Palmeros:** Mr. Butler reported that the Committee Angelica Palmeros has nominated Angelica Palmeros to fill the current vacancy in the City of Pasadena seat on the Commission, replacing former Commissioner John Palomo.

MOTION #4: Nominate Angelica Palmeros to fill the City of Pasadena seat on the Commission to the Board of Supervisors (*Passed by Consensus*).

3. **New Member Nominations:**

- Mr. Butler referred to the accompanying slate of candidates. There were some changes to the slate originally developed in December 2004. Mr. Vincent-Jones noted that the nominees would be included in the Board letter, along with the Ordinance to expedite the approval process. Mr. Butler indicated that all Commissioners, even if filling the same seats, would have to be re-nominated and appointed.

Commission on HIV Health Services Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2005

Page 4 of 7

- He added that the Committee was not forwarding any Alternates at this juncture since the full members are required first for HRSA purposes and in order to enact the Ordinance, once adopted. For any members whose applications are not forwarded with this slate, their nominations will be forwarded to the Board individually, according to the normal process. The RD&B was hoping that it would be seating the new Commission at the July meeting.

MOTION #5: Nominate the new Commission membership slate to the Board of Supervisors, once the revised Ordinance is approved (*Passed by Consensus*).

C. Standards of Care (SOC) Committee:

1. *Standards Development Process:*

- Dr. Younai began her presentation of the standards by reviewing the process to develop them. The standards development process depends upon two technical assistance contracts initiated by HRSA: Kathleen Clanon, MD, facilitates the expert review panels, and Phil Meyers drafts the standards and incorporates the input. Comments from the expert panels are incorporated in the drafts presented to the Commission.
- The SOC Committee has designated a Standards Subcommittee to review the draft standards and consider input for the standards. Once presented to the Commission, it is opened for public comment for three weeks. If there are significant comments that come with any specific standards, they are prepared that they may have to extend the review process. Throughout the process, if there are comments that they believe are consistent with the discussions that took place in the panel review session, they are incorporated. Some comments may be relevant, but will have to be saved for discussion/dialogue once the adopted standards are revised in a year or two.
- Once the standards are adopted, the SOC Committee is going to begin developing a process that checks contract templates on a regular basis to ensure that the standards have been appropriately incorporated into contractual language. Per standard, the process takes, at a minimum, five months.
- Dr. Younai noted that the standards could be viewed during the public comment period on the Commission's website at www.hivcommission-la.info.

2. ***Mental Health, Psychiatric:*** Dr. Younai presented a brief summary of the psychiatric standards, and opened in for public comment until June 1, 2005.
3. ***Mental Health, Psychosocial:*** Dr. Younai presented a brief summary of the psychotherapy standards, and opened in for public comment until June 1, 2005.
4. ***Oral Health:*** Dr. Younai presented a brief summary of the oral health/dental standards, and opened in for public comment until June 1, 2005.

D. Public Policy Committee:

1. *Name-Based HIV Reporting:*

- Mr. Engeran reported that the Senate Judiciary Committee had met recently, and SB 945 was not voted out of Committee. Ms. DeAugustine noted that the bill had not failed, but was put on two-year status, which was disappointing given the urgency of the measure.
- Mr. Engeran indicated that Senator Sheila Kuehl (D-Los Angeles) was the primary opposition, but made it clear that the need arise, she and others would bring the issue back to the floor as an urgency item. He noted that other efforts to pursue the measure during the current legislative session would be pursued.
- Mr. Engeran took a moment to thank Mr. Vincent-Jones and Commission staff, Dr. Fielding, Mr. Freehill, and several Commissioners, all of whom had worked very hard on this important issue. Ms. Broadus, while complimenting the work that had been done, noted that it indicated more proactive work on the issue should have been done much earlier by all of the stakeholders.

2. ***Medi-Cal Re-design:*** Mr. Engeran reported that there were approximately 20 to 25 people who attended the hearing; that it was a good forum, and the Committee would be reviewing the issues at a forthcoming meeting.
3. ***Disease Prevention Demonstration Project:*** Ms. Schwartz said the issue was also referred to as last year's SB 1159, a demonstration program—that the Commission voted to support at its last meeting—which allows pharmacy retail sales of syringes. The County is required to implement it in whatever city jurisdiction authorizes the program: the Cities of Los Angeles and West Hollywood have already voted to do so. She reported that the item is scheduled to come before the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, May 17, 2005.
4. ***Reauthorization:***
 - Ms. Schwartz reported that there were a number of people attended AIDS Watch, they had some very good conversations educating their legislators about needs and concerns coming from Los Angeles.

Commission on HIV Health Services Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2005

Page 5 of 7

- Mr. Freehill reported that there are a combined total of seven or eight major policy position papers from different national groups. He noted that there is a lot of agreement, with only a few radical or earthshaking ideas being proposed. The administration, he noted, still has not taken a position. He went on to say that the General Accounting Office (GAO) has prepared a report that is not public. He further detailed that there are 22 separate health-care related reauthorization bills in the Senate Health Committee this year, and work on the CARE Act Reauthorization will depend on how long and how much effort goes into the reauthorization efforts in general. While it is still expected that the CARE Act will be reauthorized during the current legislative session, which means before the end of September, it is scheduled to follow the National Institutes of Health (NIH) reauthorization and may be impacted by issues such as stem cell research and the nuclear option. He said they expect to see draft Senate language by the end of May or the mid-June.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones asked Ms. Schwartz and Mr. Freehill to elaborate further on the issue of curtailing, limiting or eliminating planning councils; he said he had been hearing varying reports for months, and more recently, that it is an issue that is being discussed. Mr. Freehill said it still seems to be an issue that people are discussing, but for which no one is taking responsibility. Mr. Vincent-Jones reported that Senator Enzi had requested information from several planning councils, and cautioned Commissioners to stay on top of the issue because it could become a “stealth issue” that is proposed at the last hour and to which no one has time to respond.

5. **AB 568: *Rapid HIV Testing*:**

- Ms. Schwartz described the legislation, and then elaborated on the amendments that the Committee felt were necessary before it could support the legislation. Ms. Schwartz suggested eliminating the first proposed amendment detailed in the motion, as it had become clear that there were specific documentation requirements already associated with this type of care/instruction. Mr. Guigni expressed concern that eliminating the documentation stipulation would leave people open for retribution, and indicated that he would vote differently on the motion than he did in Committee if that amendment were left out. There was general discussion about whether the motion should be returned to Committee for further review.

MOTION #6a: Refer the motion back to the Public Policy Committee for further review/discussion (*Motion failed*).

- It was clarified that in spite of the “rapid testing” description of the proposed legislation, it refers simply to an HIV test, in a rapid or other testing format.
- Dr. Jordan opposed the proposed amendment adding the requirement to physical examinations as well, noting, in his opinion, it weakened the effort significantly.

MOTION #6b: End debate (*Motion passed*).

MOTION #6c: Delete the first proposed amendment from the motion, detailing specific documentation requirements (*Motion passed*).

MOTION #6: Endorse AB 568, contingent upon recommended amendments, as further amended, in accordance with presented motion. (*Motion passed*).

6. **AB 1142: *African-American HIV Initiative*:** Ms. Schwartz briefly described the proposed legislation, and noted the Committee approved it unanimously, with one abstention.

MOTION #7: Endorse AB 1142, in accordance with presented motion (*Passed by Consensus*).

7. **AB 349: *Sexual Education Instruction*:** Ms. Schwartz reported that the proposed legislation failed in Committee, and, therefore, was not discussed at length. The Commission decided to vote on the issue, all the same, to go on record against the initiative in case it is resurrected at a future time.

MOTION #8: Oppose AB 349, in accordance with presented motion (*Passed by Consensus*).

8. **AB 283/SB152: *Pseudoephedrine Production*:**

- Ms. Schwartz reported that both bills were similar, but that the Committee had felt the Assembly version was the better piece of proposed legislation, thus forwarding a motion to support both pieces of proposed legislation, but only support SB 152 if it was brought into conformity with AB 283. She further reported that SB 152 has become a two-year bill, not making it out of its respective Senate Committee.
- Ms. Watt expressed support for the motion as presented, noting that the time limits imposed by SB 152 are unrealistic for families during, for example, flu season and needing to avail themselves of over-the-counter pseudoephedrine products such as TheraFlu.
- Ms. Watt also cautioned the Commission on making hasty decisions and voting on issues that they had not informed themselves of adequately, prompting a commitment by the Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs to prepare more thorough legislative presentations in the future, and to make an effort to consolidate issues into fewer Commission meetings.

Commission on HIV Health Services Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2005

Page 6 of 7

MOTION #9: Endorse AB 283 and endorse SB 152, as revised to reflect AB 283, in accordance with presented motion (*Passed by Consensus*).

E. Finance Committee:

1. **Financial Reports**

- Ms. Bailey referred to the summary report of Title I funds allocated and spent in Year 14. The full year was \$33,245,347, with no delinquent agencies. Title II there is a year-to-date of \$2,752,331 with 34 agencies non-delinquent.

F. Priorities and Planning (P&P) Committee: Ms. Watt reported that there been no P&P meeting the prior month. In the course of their work for the forthcoming year, the Committee is going to focus many of its planning activities on substance abuse and multiple diagnosis issues across all services, especially crystal methamphetamine. Ms. Watt distributed two articles on the subject were distributed. Mr. Vincent-Jones told the group that the articles would be available from the Commission offices.

XIV. COMMISSION COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED: Mr. Eastman reported on his attendance at the AMFAR and the Latino HIV AIDS Conferences. He went on to say that the City of West Hollywood established a moratorium on medical marijuana clubs, and the City has invited him to be on their Task Force. He added that for the last month, he has been participating in the TMC114 clinical trials, and his viral load dropped from 400,000 to 3,000 in two weeks—a 99% decrease.

XV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mr. Griggs reported that the large apartment complex in which he lives houses a large number of people with HIV/AIDS under Section 8, and was recently sold. Mr. Vincent-Jones referred him to HIV/AIDS Legal Services Alliance (HALSA) because they deal with a significant number of landlord/tenant issues.
- Dr. Jordan raised an issue resulting from RAMSA's handling of ADAP clients, noting a written communication from them that is temporarily suspending ADAP services for clients who don't have proof of Medi-Cal eligibility. Ms. DeAugustine promised to follow-up on the issue and report back.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

Commission on HIV Health Services Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2005

Page 7 of 7

MOTION AND VOTING SUMMARY		
MOTION #1: Approve the Agenda Order.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #2: Approve the minutes from the November 15-16 2004 Commission on HIV Health Services Annual meeting.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #3: Approve the minutes from the April 14, 2005 Commission on HIV Health Services meeting.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #4: Nominate Angelica Palmeros to fill the City of Pasadena seat on the Commission to the Board of Supervisors.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #5: Nominate the new Commission membership slate to the Board of Supervisors, once the revised Ordinance is approved.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #6: Endorse AB 568, contingent upon recommended amendments, as further amended, in accordance with presented motion.	<i>Ayes:</i> Aguilar, Bailey, Ballesteros, Braswell, Broadus, Carter, DeAugustine, Eastman, Engeran, Farias, Fuentes, Griggs, Johnson-Heath, Mendia, Schwartz, Scott, Talamantes, Watt <i>Opposed:</i> Giugni, Jordan <i>Abstentions:</i> Butler, Land, Long	MOTION PASSED Ayes: 18 Opposed: 2 Abstentions: 3
MOTION #6a: Refer the motion back to the Public Policy Committee for further review/discussion.	<i>Ayes:</i> Bailey, Ballesteros, Butler, Carter, Farias, Fuentes, Giugni, Griggs, Land, Mendia <i>Opposed:</i> Aguilar, Braswell, Broadus, DeAugustine, Eastman, Engeran, Johnson-Heath, Schwartz, Scott, Watt <i>Abstentions:</i> Jordan, Long, Talamantes	MOTION FAILED Ayes: 10 Opposed: 10 Abstentions: 3
MOTION #6b: End debate.	<i>Ayes:</i> Aguilar, Bailey, Ballesteros, Braswell, Broadus, Butler, Carter, DeAugustine, Eastman, Engeran, Farias, Fuentes, Griggs, Johnson-Heath, Long, Mendia, Schwartz <i>Opposed:</i> Giugni, Jordan, Talamantes, Watt <i>Abstentions:</i> Land, Scott	MOTION PASSED Ayes: 16 Opposed: 4 Abstentions: 2
MOTION #6c: Delete the first proposed amendment from the motion, detailing specific documentation requirements.	<i>Ayes:</i> Bailey, Braswell, Broadus, Carter, DeAugustine, Eastman, Engeran, Farias, Fuentes, Griggs, Johnson-Heath, Jordan, Mendia, Schwartz <i>Opposed:</i> Giugni, Scott, Talamantes, Watt <i>Abstentions:</i> Aguilar, Ballesteros, Butler, Land, Long	MOTION PASSED Ayes: 14 Opposed: 4 Abstentions: 5
MOTION #7: Endorse AB 1142, in accordance with presented motion.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #8: Oppose AB 349, in accordance with presented motion.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #9: Endorse AB 283 and endorse SB 152, as revised to reflect AB 283, in accordance with presented motion.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED